



Objectives

- Select an accredited lab
- Ensure lab results are accurate
- Maintain a “chain-of-custody”
- Evaluate lab results



Selecting a Laboratory

- Submit samples to an accredited lab recognized by EPA's:
 - ✓ National Lead Laboratory Accreditation Program (NLLAP)
- Call National Lead Information Center (NLIC) Clearinghouse for a listing:
 - ✓ 1-800-424-LEAD



Questions to Ask Laboratories

- Recognized by NLLAP?
- Sample detection limit?
- Turnaround time for analysis?
- Cost per sample?
- Sampling materials?
- Supply spiked dust wipe samples?
- Perform calculations?
- Analyze composite samples?



Chain-of-Custody

- Documents each person who handles sample
- Ensures samples are not lost or tampered with
- Included on sampling form
- Your responsibility to maintain

Quality Control: How?

- Three steps:
 - ✓ Accurately fill out the sample collection form
 - ✓ Submit blank dust wipe samples
 - ✓ Submit spiked dust wipe samples (recommended)



Quality Control: Why?

- Simple and cost effective
- Essential to legally document clearance test
- Ensures accuracy of results, sampling media, and sampling techniques



Completing Collection Form

- Confirm all information is recorded clearly and correctly
 - ✓ Sample numbers
 - ✓ Sample locations
 - ✓ Sample dimensions

Blank Samples

- **What?** Unused wipes sent to the lab
- **Why?** Determine if sampling media are contaminated
- **When?** Submit one blank sample:
 - ✓ For each unit tested
 - ✓ From each wipe lot



Spiked Samples (Recommended)

- **What?** Wipe containing a known weight of lead-based paint dust
- **Why?** Check laboratory's analytic techniques
- **How?**
 - ✓ Submit every 10 jobs



Evaluating Laboratory Results

- Step 1: Check for appropriate units
- $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$
- Step 2: Do the math
- Step 3: Compare results to Federal guidance and standards for lead-contaminated dust



Common Mistakes

- Mistaking μg for $\mu\text{g}/\text{ft}^2$
- Not checking the laboratory's math
- Not submitting spike and blank samples
- Not maintaining a chain-of-custody



Summary: Now You Can

- Select an accredited lab
 - ✓ Call 1-800-424-LEAD
- Ensure lab results are accurate
- Maintain a chain-of-custody
- Evaluate lab results
- Use Federal guidance / standards